

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Where claims have been amended and/or canceled, such amendments and/or cancellations are done without prejudice and/or waiver and/or disclaimer to the claimed and/or disclosed subject matter, and Applicant reserves the right to claim this subject matter and/or other disclosed subject matter in a continuing application or otherwise.

1. (currently amended) A trekking staff, comprising:

a solid shaft portion comprising a first end, ~~and a second end,~~ a length and a width, the second end of the solid shaft portion capable of being detachably coupled to a tip portion, the length being between the first and the second end, the width being substantially perpendicular to the length, the solid shaft portion being formed from a single material substantially along the width; and

a hollow elongated chamber portion comprising a first end and a second end, the second end of the hollow chamber being detachably coupled to the first end of the solid shaft portion.

2. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion comprises a direction finding device.

3. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 2, wherein the direction finding device comprises a mechanical magnetic compass.

4. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 2, wherein the direction finding device comprises an electronic magnetic compass.

5. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 2, wherein the direction finding device comprises a global positioning system receiver.

6. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, further comprising a grip portion.

7. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 6, wherein the grip portion conforms to a shape of the trekking staff.

8. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 6, wherein the grip portion comprises a strand of cord-like material.

9. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 8, wherein the grip portion comprises a spool shape, and
wherein the strand of cord-like material is wrapped around the spool-shaped grip portion.

10. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 8, wherein the strand of cord-like material comprises a loop.

11. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 10, wherein the loop is adjustable in size.

12. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, further comprising a light emitting device.

13. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 12, wherein the light emitting device is selectably controllable to emit one of a constant light and a flashing light.

14. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 13, wherein the light emitting device is selectably controllable to emit a flashing light comprising a message in Morse code.

15. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 12, wherein the light emitting device emits a plurality of light colors.

16. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 12, wherein the light emitting device is controllable to emit light of a selected color.

17. (currently amended) The trekking staff according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the~~ tip portion, the tip portion comprising a first end and a second end, the first end of the tip portion being detachably coupled to the second end of the solid shaft portion, and the second end of the tip portion being tapered.

18. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 17, wherein a cross-sectional shape of the second end of the tip portion is round.

19. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 17, wherein a cross-sectional shape of the second end of the tip portion is square.

20. (currently amended) The trekking staff according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the~~ tip portion, the tip portion comprising a first end and a second end, the first end of the tip portion being detachably coupled to the second end of the solid shaft portion, and the second end of the tip portion including an aperture comprising a size that allows a cord-like material to pass through the aperture.

21. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains a water purification system.

22. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains a water collection system.

23. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains a first aid kit.

24. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 23, wherein the first aid kit comprises a single-use medication dispenser comprising:

a reservoir containing a single-use portion of a liquid-type bandage material; and
a tearable opening through which the liquid-type bandage material is dispensed.

25. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 23, wherein the first aid kit comprises a single-use medication dispenser comprising:

a reservoir containing a single-use portion of antiseptic; and
a tearable opening through which the antiseptic is dispensed.

26. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the trekking staff comprises a single-use medication dispenser comprising:

a reservoir containing a single-use portion of a liquid-type bandage material; and
a tearable opening through which the liquid-type bandage material is dispensed.

27. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the trekking staff comprises a single-use medication dispenser comprising:

a reservoir containing a single-use portion of antiseptic; and
a tearable opening through which the antiseptic is dispensed.

28. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains survival equipment.

29. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains a communication device.

30. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 29, wherein the communication device comprises a communication receiver.

31. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 29, wherein the communication device comprises a transmitter.

32. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 31, wherein the transmitter transmits a voice communication.

33. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 31, wherein the transmitter transmits a homing signal.

34. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 31, wherein the transmitter transmits positional information of the trekking staff.

35. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 29, wherein the communication device comprises a bidirectional communication device.

36. (original) The trekking staff according to claim 1, wherein the hollow elongated chamber portion contains an MP3 player.

37. (currently amended) A trekking staff, comprising:

a shaft portion comprising a first end and a second end, the second end of the shaft portion capable of being detachably coupled to a tip portion; and

a hollow elongated chamber portion comprising ~~comprises~~ a first end and a second end, the second end of the hollow chamber being detachably coupled to the first end of the ~~solid~~ shaft portion, the hollow elongated chamber portion containing an audio reproduction device.

38. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 37, wherein the audio reproduction device comprises an MP3 player.

39. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 37, wherein the audio reproduction device comprises a tape player.

40. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 37, wherein the shaft portion comprises a solid shaft.

41. (previously presented) The trekking staff according to claim 37, wherein the shaft portion comprises a tubular shaft.

42. (withdrawn) A single-use medication dispenser comprising:
a reservoir containing a single-use portion of a liquid-type bandage material; and
a tearable opening through which the liquid-type bandage material is dispensed.

43. (withdrawn) A single-use medication dispenser comprising:
a reservoir containing a single-use portion of antiseptic; and
a tearable opening through which the antiseptic is dispensed.

44. (new) The trekking staff according to claim 37, wherein the shaft portion further comprises a length and a width, the length being between the first and the second end, the width being substantially perpendicular to the length, and at least a portion of the shaft portion being formed from a single material substantially along the width, and

the trekking staff further comprising the tip portion, the tip portion comprising a first end and a second end, the first end of the tip portion being detachably coupled to the second end of the solid shaft portion, and the second end of the tip portion comprising one of tapered and an aperture comprising a size that allows a cord-like material to pass through the aperture.